



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Effigy Mounds  
National Monument

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## Effigy Mounds News Release

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### **4th Annual Prairie du Chien - *Bald Eagle Appreciation Day***

Mark your calendars, Prairie du Chien will host Bald Eagle Appreciation Day on Saturday, February 23, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Come and enjoy bald eagles and the other wonderful natural resources of the Upper Mississippi River. Event activities will be centered along the Mississippi River at the location of the Prairie du Chien Chamber of Commerce offices on the grounds of the Wisconsin Welcome Center, 211 S Main Street, and the adjacent AmericInn Lodge and Suites. Ken Block, Chief Ranger at Effigy Mounds National Monument, touted Bald Eagle Day as a “great way to introduce you to the amazing year-round outdoor recreational and educational opportunities of the Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin & McGregor / Marquette, Iowa region located along the Mississippi River - in the heart of the Upper Mississippi Wildlife and Fish Refuge”.

Live bald eagle programs will be presented by staff of the National Eagle Center in Wabasha, Minnesota, at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in the lobby of the AmericInn. In-between these programs, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., a special presentation of “Lessons from the Eagle”, will be given by Jon “Hawk” Stravers of the Audubon Society - Upper Mississippi River Initiative. Brett Mandernack, Manager, Eagle Valley Nature Reserve, will present his research “Satellite Tracking Bald Eagles in the Upper Midwest” from 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Pat Schlarbaum, Iowa DNR Wildlife biologist, and other personnel from the Iowa DNR, Wisconsin DNR, National Park Service and Fish & Wildlife Service will staff the viewing points. Educational exhibits will include agency displays including a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service exhibit explaining sensitive refuge resources using bird mounts, endangered freshwater mussels and “hands on” items such as furbearer pelts. Activities for the day include eagle, raptor and other natural history exhibits and presentations, children’s craft activities, a life-size eagle nest replica (weather depending), and artwork and photography by local artists and students. Educational books and other items will be on sale.

Birding experts, volunteers and agency personnel will be on hand at the Wisconsin Welcome Center and AmericInn. Maps and information related to other nearby bald eagle watching locations will be available for those interested in self guided eagle watching field trips. For more information, contact the Prairie du Chien Chamber of Commerce / Tourism Council at 800-732-1673, [www.prairieduchien.org](http://www.prairieduchien.org), [pdccoc@mhtc.net](mailto:pdccoc@mhtc.net), or Effigy Mounds National Monument, 563-873-3491, [www.nps.gov/efmo](http://www.nps.gov/efmo), [kenneth\\_block@nps.gov](mailto:kenneth_block@nps.gov)

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